

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, and 8 have been amended. Each of the pending claims is believed to define an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited references. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Salim.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim in view of Moriwaki et al.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim in view of Moriwaki et al. and further in view of Mizuhara et al.

Claims 6 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim in view of Moriwaki and further in view of Shankar.

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim in view of Shankar and further in view of Moriwaki.

Independent claims 1, 5, and 8 have been amended to recite that a received packet type is determined to be tagged IPv4 packet, untagged IPv4 packet, tagged IPv6 or untagged IPv6 packet based on a first information item, second information item, third information item and fourth information item.

In an exemplary embodiment of the invention, the first information item may be the value at position A, please see page 28, lines 26 of the present specification. The first pre-specified position may correspond to position A. The second information item may correspond to the value at position B. The second pre-specified position may correspond to position B, please see page 22, line 1. The third information item may correspond to the value of field at the position opposite 11 octets from the beginning of the extracted fields. The third pre-specified position may correspond to the position offset 11 octets from the beginning of the extracted fields, please see page 22, lines 8-9.

The fourth information item may correspond to the value of the field at the position offset seven octets from the beginning of the extracted fields. The fourth pre-specified position may correspond to the position offset seven octets from the beginning of the extracted fields, please see page 22, lines 8-9.

For example, in the embodiment described at page 9, line 23 to page 10, line 6 and Fig. 2A through Fig. 2D, at the extracted field of the 13th octet the packet judgment portion 120 references the "value" of an identifying field of each packet at a position enabling detection of identifying fields for each type of packet, and judges the packet type. The packet judgment portion 120 of this embodiment can be set so as to reference the "value" at a position fixed temporally from the beginning of the extracted fields. By this means, the functional design of the packet judgment portion 120 (and therefore of the packet identification portion 100) can be facilitated.

On the other hand, no cited reference discloses at least the above features in the claimed combination, which makes possible to judge the packet type based on the range of field in the packet. There is no rationale to combine or modify the references to achieve the claimed invention.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Application No. 10/656,260
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In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

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